

NIGHTS OF GLADNESS

Recording: LS 45-402

Music: "Nights of Gladness" by Ancliffe.

This is possibly the very simplest of waltzes in Viennese tempo. It is a joyous little dance, and has a winsome quality that has endeared it to both expert waltzers and casual square dancers. It is discussed on p 216 of "The Round Dance Book."

Position: Open, near hands joined, facing LOD.

Footwork: Opposite throughout. Instructions for man, woman does opposite steps.

Introduction: 8 meas of fast waltz. Standard acknowledgment on the last meas.

Measures:

1-4 STEP, SWING, ; STEP, SWING, ; STEP, SWING, ;
(BACK-TO-BACK) STEP, SWING-TOUCH

Man steps twd LOD on his L foot, and, pivoting outward, swings R foot fwd (also swinging joined hands fwd); man steps fwd on his R and, pivoting slightly inward, swings his L foot fwd (swinging joined hands bwd); man steps fwd on his L and swings his R foot (and joined hands) fwd, pivoting so partners are almost back-to-back; man steps on R completing the pivot so he is completely back-to-back with his partner and lets L foot swing into a "touch" pos, next to the supporting R foot.

5-8 STEP, , DRAW; STEP, , DRAW; STEP, SWING
AROUND, ; STEP, TOUCH,

In back-to-back pos, man steps twd RLOD on L, holds, and draws R to L; repeat; man steps on L and letting go with his R hand, swings his R foot out and around, doing a L-face pivot on his L foot so he is again facing his partner (woman

opp); face-to-face, partners join both hands, as man step on R and touches L to R.

9-12 STEP, SWING, ; STEP, SWING, ; SIDE, , BEHIND;
SIDE, SWING,

Partners face-to-face, both hands joined, man steps twd LOD on L and swings R across; man steps twd RLOD on R and swings L across R; steps twd LOD on L, holds one count, steps behind L on R; (These two meas make a cantered grapevine) man steps twd LOD on L again and swings R across L.

13-16 STEP, SWING, ; STEP, SWING, ; SIDE, , BEHIND;
SIDE, SWING,

Repeat meas 9-12 in reverse, starting twd RLOD on man's R foot. On the last meas, open out to face LOD in open pos.

17-24 REPEAT MEAS 1-8

On the last meas, close up into closed dance pos, pivoting so that man is facing LOD or nearly so.

25-32 DIP, , ; PAT, , ; WALTZ FOR 6 MEASURES

Partners in closed pos, man facing approx LOD, man steps bwd twd RLOD on his L foot and holds 2 counts (woman dips fwd on her R with L leg arched behind her) while he keeps his R foot off the floor and held with a straight leg; man pats R foot lightly straight in front of him and lifts it again and holds 2 counts; stepping fwd in LOD on man's R, do 6 meas of R-face turning waltz, ending with a "step, step" on the last meas, twirling the woman into pos to repeat the dance.

Sequence: The entire dance is done 4 times. On the last time through, twirl the woman on the 5th meas of waltz, and end with a bow and curtsy.

Variation: Dancers may omit the DIP and PAT on meas 25 and 26,

if they prefer and go directly into 8 meas of turning waltz. The dip and pat is much more fun.